Synopsis of Practices and Strategies to Improve Unemployment Insurance Program Integrity from the April 4, 2012 House UI Fraud Task Force Meeting

- Increase the penalties for fraud
 - o criminal, civil, fines, and disqualification from benefits
- Increase use of withholding of benefits to collect overpayments
 - o NC has 50% limit for non-fraud overpayments; most states have 100%
- Extend the period during which overpayments may be collected, fraud identified, and prosecuted
 - o Could be unlimited in statute but limited in departmental policy
- Eliminate unnecessary waiver provisions
- Increase messaging campaigns
 - USDOL conducting these; has materials available
- Increase the public profile of fraud prosecutions and penalties
 - Get it in the newspapers
- Bolster enforcement of able, available, and actively seeking work requirements
 - Weekly certification
 - o Detect foreign IP addresses; other strategies for electronic fraud detection
- Utilize SIDES (State Information Data Exchange System)
 - o USDOL has marketing and messaging tools available to get employers to use it
- Dedicate staffing and systems resources to use information effectively. Target as necessary to maximize recovery.
 - o May need additional administration funds from feds or supplement with State money
- Increase detection and enforcement of SUTA dumping
- Increase detection and enforcement of mistakenly classifying workers as non-employees
- Work with employers to exchange information electronically to identify issues, overpayments, and prosecute fraud.
 - o Follow up with results of fraud cases
- Incorporate improved integrity into SCUBI design
- Apply for USDOL FY 2012 supplemental funding
 - o Funding for state-specific strategies to reduce improper payments
- Improve staff training
- Enhance performance measures
 - Focus on effective integrity in addition to USDOL performance measures
 - o Evaluate in terms of integrity of the standards themselves
 - o Use continuous improvement evaluations
 - o Regularly adjust systems and procedures to identify fraud and overpayments
- Participate in the Treasury Offset Program
 - USDOL has funding available to assist states
- Increase number and use of cross-match tools
 - National New Hire Directory
 - o Prisons/correction records
 - Revenue/tax records
 - Death records
 - Other states databases